The recent upsurge in conflict in northern Shan State between the Myanmar Military and the Northern Alliance has displaced nearly 8,000 people as of 31 August. Since 17 August to date, more than 4,000 people have returned home, leaving about 3,500 displaced in Lashio, Hseni and Kutkai townships as of 2 September. The situation is fluid with people travelling back and forth between displacement sites and places of origin. Government agencies are providing relief items and cash assistance. As of 30 August, the conflict has killed 11 civilians and injured 25 (mostly women). On 31 August, representatives of the Government’s Peace Commission and the Northern Alliance held talks. On the same day, the Military extended a unilateral ceasefire until 21 September with the aim to enter into talks for a bilateral peace agreement.

8,000 people displaced

Civil unrest and protests in Papua and West Papua provinces, which began two weeks ago as a student protest and later developed into larger pro-independence demonstrations, have started to subside. In some areas, the protests escalated into violent clashes, resulting in civilian and military deaths and the destruction of buildings, notably in Deiyai Regency and the city of Jayapura. An internet blackout across Papua and West Papua provinces remains in place. According to media reports, up to 6,000 police and military personnel have been deployed in response to the demonstrations. While markets and banks are open, schools remain closed while protests continue.

The precipitation forecast for the Sep-Oct-Nov season indicates that precipitation is very likely to be below normal across Indonesia, Philippines, Australia, parts of Thailand, Japan, Tuvalu, Taiwan, Singapore and Timor Leste. Above normal precipitation is likely in parts of PNG, Sri Lanka, Maldives, India as well as the Solomon Islands.

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